

Prison Rape Elimination Act

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) was passed in 2003 with unanimous support from both parties in Congress. The purpose of the act was to “provide for the analysis of the incidence and effects of prison rape in Federal, State, and local institutions and to provide information, resources, and recommendations and funding to protect individuals from prison rape.” PREA requires confinement institutions to adhere to stringent standards designed to prevent and respond to acts of sexual abuse or harassment.

Cambria County Prison has a zero-tolerance policy toward sexual misconduct and there are several important policies and procedures in effect in order to educate inmates and staff about sexual misconduct. There are also specific policies and procedures in place to prevent and respond to reports of sexual misconduct. Inmates incarcerated at this institution receive information during the commitment and classification process explaining their rights with regard to sexual misconduct and also how to prevent and report sexual misconduct.

All reports of sexual abuse or sexual harassment result in an investigation by prison officials and a detective from the District Attorney’s Office. When applicable, criminal charges will be filed, whether the abuser is an inmate or staff member.

If you have information about an inmate being sexually abused in this institution report it!

Reports can be made by:

Calling Cambria County Prison’s PREA Coordinator at 814-472-1352

Or by:

Calling the toll free HOTLINE at 1-866-823-6703

The HOTLINE is staffed 24 hours daily. All reports will be forwarded to Cambria County Prison’s PREA Coordinator for investigation.

In the event of an inmate being sexually assaulted, medical and mental health care will be provided along with support provisions from Victim’s Services of Cambria and Somerset Counties at no cost.

Cambria County Prison is committed to providing care, custody and control in order to maintain a safe environment for all individuals incarcerated or employed at its institution.

Annual reports on sexual abuse may be requested from the office of the Warden, some material such as names or that which would pose a threat to institutional security have been removed from the report.